Studio School Bulletin

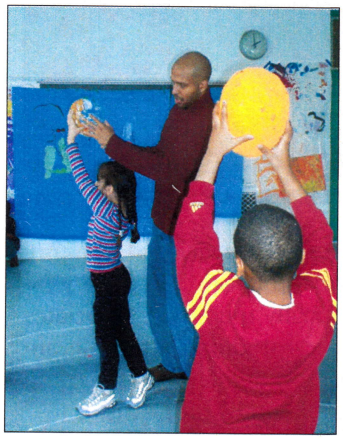
December 2002

News Up date for Children's Studio School Community

Communication

Cipher Studio illustrates the solar system

We hope that all of you are enjoying this very special time of year with your families. We have enjoyed working with the children and watching them develop individually and collectively. We are fortunate to have had a number of resources in place this year that allowed us to respond to the various needs of our students and families in a timely manner. Getting positive feedback about the quality support we have been providing makes us feel very good as a team. Our faculty members have been working to address the needs of their individual students; Barbara has been diligently exploring ways that faculty can best meet those needs. Thank you to the artists/teachers, artist/teacher assistants, interns, and volunteers for guiding each child along his or her own educational path. Our student support team should be applauded for the attentive care and imagination that they have employed in order to optimize students' learning. The administrative and program support staff have created the infrastructure for all this to happen with commitment, efficiency, and patience. Last but not least, kudos to our maintenance and security team for keeping our large building clean and safe for the children. Please make a point to share your appreciation with our staff.



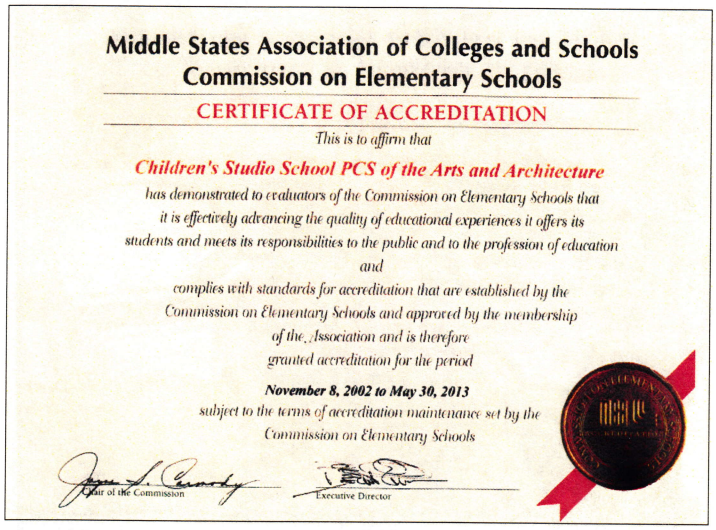
John explains the physics of night and day to Cipher Studio

Griot & Cuentista
vision & voice

School Program News

Accreditation:

Children's Studio School PCS has received its certificate of accreditation from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. It affirms that "Children's Studio School PCS of the Arts and Architecture has demonstrated to evaluators of the Commission on Elementary Schools that it is effectively advancing the quality of educational experiences it offers its students and meets its responsibilities to the public and to the profession of education." We need to thank the many staff, parents and students who have helped the school accomplish this milestone, especially last year's Accreditation Steering Committee and Gina Lewis. But we are not resting on our laurels; the school board is currently working on a five-year improvement plan.



Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Elementary Schools

CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

This is to affirm that

Children's Studio School PCS of the Arts and Architecture

has demonstrated to evaluators of the Commission on Elementary Schools that it is effectively advancing the quality of educational experiences it offers its students and meets its responsibilities to the public and to the profession of education and complies with standards for accreditation that are established by the Commission on Elementary Schools and approved by the membership of the Association and is therefore granted accreditation for the period

November 8, 2002 to May 30, 2013

subject to the terms of accreditation maintenance set by the Commission on Elementary Schools

Chair of the Commission — Executive Director

Children's Studio School's certificate of accreditation

Community building:

The school has been putting a lot of effort behind helping children develop self-discipline and understand their roles in creating a healthy community. Faculty members have been reinforcing values with the children by engaging them in self-expression and collaboration. The children are developing a strong sense of their own and peers' personal needs. They are also learning how to work within studio and school-wide expectations. In November, we started offering monthly sharing opportunities for the children to celebrate community building successes. All children are asked to review the ways that they have been particularly

Paulina and Tiara share Island Studio's accomplishments during the monthly community building event

successful in helping to make a stronger school community. The children share their thoughts and studio work with their peers. José has designed puzzle pieces that will create a complete picture by the end of the year. The children have already shown great interest in this project. Some of the areas that they are improving upon: keeping the school clean, listening to each other and the teachers, taking care of materials, returning books, and respecting each other.

José, Susanna, Nelson, Kimball and Christal performs for First Amendment Studio

Food service program:

Some parents have expressed concern about their children not consistently eating the food provided by our caterer. Jeff Schmidt (father of Joshua in Sky Studio) has taken the initiative to work with the school to address the level of sugar in the breakfast cereals and encourage children to eat fresh fruits daily. I want to laud his efforts, which have led to some of the following adjustments: providing guidance to the caterer on healthy foods that children prefer, limiting the amount of high sugar cereal served, and giving precut fruit to the children. The school wants to express its gratitude to Cornelia for her faithful attendance to our students' needs. We also want to thank parents who have modified their children's meals as to adhere to our new school policy of not heating individual children's meals; Angela has found a thermal lunch sack for maintaining the temperature of these meals. Parents who want their children to receive a high sugar cereal must sign a special form; see Noemy or Cornelia for further assistance.

Family and Community Activities

Artists and Families programs:

Djenaba is planning additional activities for our parents, including family painting workshops with Baba V on Saturdays, family trips to cultural events and a camping trip. Stay tuned for dates and times.

Boomerang:

The doors of our school store, Boomerang, have swung open! Currently open on Tuesdays at 4pm-6pm, Boomerang is your swap and shop stop; shop and raise funds for your favorite charter school at the same time! Boomerang offers children's clothing, toys, and household items. Parents can receive credits for donating items; please contact Parent Coordinator Katherine Sandoval about donations. New items such as school t-shirts, pencils, mugs, tote bags, and knapsacks will be available soon.

Community Gallery:

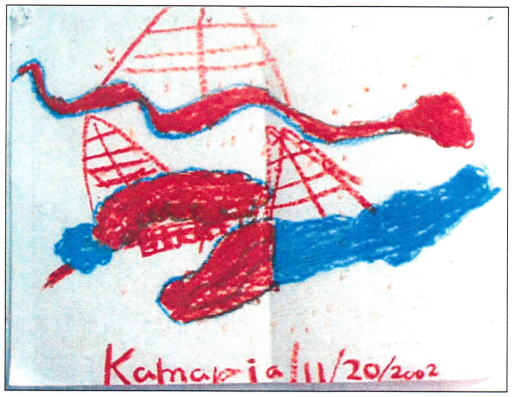
Larry Rodman's sculptures on exhibit at Community Gallery

If you have not already done so, please visit our Community Gallery on the top floor. The gallery includes works by faculty members, associates and children in after 4 studios. The works are for sale, with a portion of the proceeds going to support theschool and its programs.

Studio School Community Gallery is open 8:30 am- 6:00 pm , Monday – Friday

End of the semester presentations:

The end of the first semester is almost here. The end of the semester presentations are festive opportunities for Studio School families and other community members to experience what the students have created and learned during the semester. The students will present in their respective studios, with parents providing the food. Home studio parents will be contacting parents about the logistics.



Exploration of complementary colors by Nia and Kamaria of Forest Studio

Luncheon:

The school is organizing a luncheon for parents on February 12th. Last spring's 25th anniversary lunch was a resounding success; it was wonderful to have parents sharing lunch with their children at the school. We are planning on making this an annual event. However, the school cannot the cover the cost of the extra meals so parents are asked to return a participation form along with the $5.00 fee. Top Spanish Catering, who provided the delicious fajitas for the last luncheon, will cater the event again in February.

Parent involvement:

It appears that some parents were not well informed about their responsibilities concerning the festival. It is essential that home studio parents follow through on their commitment as many other parents depend on their coordination and communication. Home studio parents should contact Katherine Sandoval or Liane Scott if they have any questions. Katherine Sandoval will be abroad February through June. We wish her a safe trip and an enjoyable stay. We appreciate the assistance that she provided as a parent coordinator, movement teacher for Wednesday afternoons, and Boomerang organizer. Please contact Franklin if you are interested in being a parent coordinator in the spring. Parent coordinators work closely with the principal to establish agendas for the school-wide parent meetings, communicate regularly with other parents to coordinate their support of the school, and facilitate communication with parents by creating flyers, signs and providing minutes from parent meetings.

School-wide parent meetings and workshops:

Parents have been meeting every last Tuesday of the month at 6-7:30pm. These meetings are a great place for parents to receive monthly reports on the school and to participate in the school's planning efforts. Starting in January, these meetings will coincide with the workshops that parents selected in a survey in September. Attached is the list of workshops.

Griot & Cuentista
vision & voice

Parent Jeff Schmidt demonstrates the superficial tension of materials

Dates for the school-wide meetings and workshops have been included on the calendar.

Carl and Parent Jeff Schmidt in Sky studio demonstrate the superficial tension of materials

Gallery installation with paintings,textiles, sculptures, prints, and photography.
Art work for sale.
Performances by: Dancers, singers, poets and musicians.
Opening of Boomerang, the school store.
Bake sale.
Children's Studio School
25 anniversary
Winter Family Festival
Celebration of the Arts
Saturday, December 14th ,2002
12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
1301 V street N.W. Washington DC. 202 387 6148

Winter Family Festival flyer designed by José M. Cuevas

Pepe Gonzalez plays with passion

Winter Family Festival:

Please read the brief report attached about the festival on December 14th. We want to thank the many parents who actively supported the event. Through the raffle, bake sale, and store, the school raised $385. We had hoped that the raffle would have generated at least $1800 or 82% of our students selling $20 worth of raffle tickets. At our monthly school-wide parent meeting on December 17th, some parents recommended that the school distribute the raffle tickets earlier and provide an official form for parents to solicit business donations. Students who have not returned their raffle money need to do so as soon as possible. Island Studio sold the most raffle tickets and will receive a pizza party (organized by Island Studio parents).

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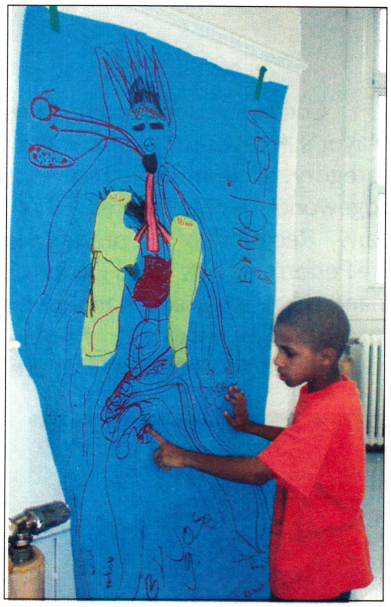
Kwelismith and trio perform during Winter Family Festival

Susana's representation of the circulatory and respiratory system in First Amendment Studio



Nelson presents the digestive system in First Amendment Studio

Please take this issue very seriously: tardy students miss valuable material and disturb other children.

Candy and toys:

We are finding that many children are bringing candy to school. It is well known that sugar affects children's energy and focus. Parents must make sure that candy is left at home. Children cannot bring toys without special permission from their teachers, so please check your children's pockets and bags. The staff will be confiscating candy and toys. Parents will be able to retrieve toys from the office at the end of the day, but children who bring toys to school repeatedly will lose the privilege of getting their toys back.

Antonio in Paths Studio shows his work

School Policies

Attendance and tardiness:

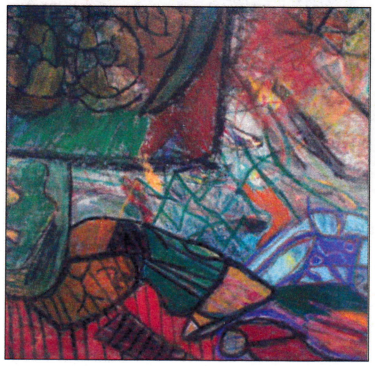
This has been our most attended year yet (89%). However, our average attendance needs to be 93% or above. Missing school disrupts children's learning. We are in the process of reviewing our tardiness rate.

Griot & Cuentista
vision & voice

Special Highlights

Congratulations to Helanius Wilkins, who was a 2002 Mayor's Art Award finalist in the Outstanding Emerging Artist category. Helanius is the choreographer and founder of Edgeworks Dance Theater, DC's first black male dance company. Recipient of the prestigious John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Local Dance Commissioning Project among many other local and national honors, Helanius will be performing at Dance Place in February. Visit www.hjwedgeworks.org for more information.

Another round of applause goes to Shayani, who received a scholarship to medical school in Grenada. Her last day will be January 10th. She was an exemplary intern for Paths and Forest Studios. We will miss her smile, her commitment, her rapport with the children, but we wish her much happiness and success in her future endeavors.



Eric, Darian, Charles, Timmy, Xavier and Hunter working with artist, Glaydson Vieira in the Perspective Studio, explored elements of color, space and line, beginning with two point perspective, layering, juxtaposition and abstraction. In small groups, they created a series of six mixed media paintings, embodying diverse concepts absorbed in their studio and home lives.

Best wishes to you during this holiday season;
may your new year be a bright beginning.